Mayor Matthew A. Pacifico



Monthly Update - December 2018

December often brings reflection of the past year's blessings and struggles, as well as hope for the New Year.

Reflecting on so many things, we are grateful for the sacrifices being made and the outstanding work being performed each and every day by our military; both at home and abroad, public safety personnel, city employees, our neighbors, the business community, non-profit organizations, churches, schools, and our hospital. Your continued collaboration supports the progress and advancement of our City.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

"Miracles only happen if you believe in miracles."

— Paulo Coelho



City Council Meeting - December

City Council will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will take place at The City of Altoona Training Facility & Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue.

Mayor's New "Paint the Plow"

Contest

Winners Announced!

Congratulations to our winning schools for the inaugural Paint the Plow Contest!

The **Judges' Pick** winner was McAuliffe Heights at Irving Elementary.

The **Fan Favorite** with the most likes on Facebook was Juniata Gap Elementary.

Each winning plow was displayed on a City of Altoona plow truck and driven in the Spirit of Christmas Parade.

Thank you to the additional participating schools to include: Holy Trinity Catholic Elementary, Juniata Elementary and Pleasant Valley Elementary.





2018 Spirit of Christmas Parade



The Spirit of Christmas Parade took place on Thursday, November 29th in downtown. Several thousand adults and children were present to celebrate the Christmas season in Altoona. Thank you to Burgmeier's Hauling for once again sponsoring the parade, and for everyone at ABCD Corporation for their hard work organizing the parade. Santa even approved!

Were you unable to make the parade?

Tune in through Atlantic Broadband Cable on the City of Altoona's Pubic Access Channel 14 as follows:

Sundays - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesdays - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesdays - 11:30 a.m.

Thursdays - 1:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Fridays - 1:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Saturdays - 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

This schedule is effective through December 31st.



Winter Weather Info

SNOW PLOW INFORMATION

During a winter weather event, the City of Altoona strives to keep City streets as safe as possible. The City plows at least 360 lane miles of streets. The overall goal is to provide timely clearing of streets while minimizing hazards and restoring travel conditions throughout the City as soon as possible after each winter storm event.

For more information about a winter weather event in the City click on the links below.

Winter Weather Resources

Snow Removal Plan

Resident Tips

FAQ's

Contact Information

After a Storm

SIDEWALK INFORMATION

In order to ensure the safety of people who have to use the City sidewalks during winter, the sidewalk snow/ice removal is in effect for City of Altoona property owners.

All property owners are required to shovel their sidewalks within 24 hours after snowfall, sleet or freezing rain ends. This includes sidewalks on private property, both occupied and vacant, and sidewalks along the street front, including handicap curb cuts at corners.

An 18 inch wide pathway for all sidewalks is required.

If ice is unremovable, sand or an abrasive material must be used in order to make the surface safe.

No snow is to be thrown onto the roadways at any time.

To report an unshoveled sidewalk, contact Codes & Inspections at 949-2456 or use this <u>FORM</u>.

EMERGENCY OPERATION INFORMATION

In anticipation of winter weather the City provides the following information:

- 1. Charge cell phones.
- 2. Report power outages to Penelec at

1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877).

3. Write down the City Emergency Operation Center phone number which is: **949-2550**.

This number will become active if and when the Emergency Operations Center opens. Follow the local news media for announcements and updates.

- 4. Receive City emergency updates by going to <u>WWW.ALTOONAPA.GOV</u> to register. **LOOK FOR PUBLIC SAFETY/COMMUNITY ALERTS IN THE LEFT COLUMN ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE CITY'S WEBSITE.**
- 5. Review additional emergency preparedness information at <u>WWW.READY.PA.GOV</u>

Carbon Monoxide Prevention

Winter in Altoona is a great time for outdoor activities, and at the end of the day we return to the comforts of home. However, winter is also a time to be aware of the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO). It is called the silent killer as it is odorless and cannot be seen or heard. The affects of carbon monoxide are deprivation of oxygen to the heart, brain and other vital

organs.

Carbon monoxide occurs naturally anytime fuel is burned. Examples include open flames, space heaters, generators, water heaters, blocked chimneys, blocked vents, and running a car or other motor inside of an enclosed space such as a garage. Carbon monoxide can be deadly when the fuel does not burn completely or an appliance is not properly ventilated.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Tips

- Have heating equipment inspected annually, by a qualified professional, before cold weather
- Never use an oven to heat your home
- Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow and debris
- Always remove your vehicle from the garage right after starting
- Portable generators should only be operated outdoors in a wellventilated area away from doors, windows and vent openings
- Your home should have a carbon monoxide alarm which provides early warning of accumulating carbon monoxide

If your carbon monoxide alarm activates move to a fresh air location and call 9-1-1. Doing so will trigger a response from the Fire Department to come to your home with an advanced gas monitor to confirm the presence of carbon monoxide.

The signs of carbon monoxide poisoning (often described as flu-like symptoms) include dull headache, nausea or vomiting, shortness of breath, confusion, weakness, dizziness and blurred vision.

Most importantly, never hesitate to call 9-1-1 if you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning. Our Fire Department wants to make sure that you are safe!

Mayor Matthew A. Pacifico

SHARE

TWEET

FORWARD

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